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Senator Toy announces Great Lakes Water Diversion hearing in Detroit

LANSING – State Senator Laura Toy, R-Livonia, reminds residents of southeast Michigan that one of five Great Lakes Water Diversion hearings which have been scheduled throughout Michigan will take place in Detroit tomorrow afternoon.

"This is a wonderful chance for members of the public to share their concerns about the diversion of our Great Lakes water," Toy said. "Michigan's greatest natural resource is our water and we need to do everything in our power to protect it."

The Detroit hearing is scheduled for 1 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 12 at the Cadillac Place, 1st floor conference room, 3058 W. Grand Blvd.

Other hearings are scheduled to take place throughout the month in Sault Ste. Marie, Grand Haven, Port Huron and Lansing.

Held by the Department of Environmental Quality's Office of the Great Lakes, the hearings will focus on the Annex 2001 Implementing Agreements. These agreements are a compact among the Great Lakes states, as well as the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec, which will serve as a framework for protecting the Great Lakes basin.

Residents unable to attend the public hearings may e-mail their written comments to <u>DEQ-ANNEX-2001@michigan.gov</u>. Written comments will be accepted through Aug. 28.

Senator Toy has always been actively committed to protecting Michigan's environment and precious natural resources. As a young woman, she started and ran the first environmental center in the city of Livonia, which included recycling, reusing and educational components. Senator Toy also helped establish the Ecology Commission in the city of Livonia, one of the first in the state of Michigan, in the early 1970s.

For more information concerning the hearings, contact Senator Toy's office at (517) 373-1707.